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Legislation Makes It Easier for Small Businesses to Hire Workers, Helps Rebuild Crumbling Infrastructure

(WASHINGTON, DC) - After last month releasing a regional economic plan making the case for strategic tax incentives and access to credit for small businesses, Congressman Russ Carnahan (MO-3) voted in favor of the bipartisan Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act (HIRE Act). The legislation creates hundreds of thousands of new Americans jobs, spurs private sector hiring and helps rebuild the nation's crumbling infrastructure.

"This is just one of many steps needed to create jobs in this country," said Congressman Carnahan.

month

after meeting with small business owners I released a plan that included help for small businesses job creation and today's jobs bill is one in a series that does just that."

The HIRE Act includes a payroll tax holiday for businesses that hire unemployed workers - a provision that is expected to create some 300,000 jobs - and an income tax credit of \$1,000 for businesses that retain these employees for one year. It also includes tax cuts to help small businesses invest, expand, and hire more workers, provisions to make it easier for states to take up infrastructure projects such as school construction and energy retrofitting, and an extension of the Highway Trust Fund that allows for billions of dollars in infrastructure development around the country.

Last week, Congressman Carnahan thanked the Senate for acting on job legislation after the Carnahan-supported Jobs for Main Street Act passed the U.S. House in December, but expressed concerns on the way Missouri will be adversely affected by unfair transportation funding and the lack of flexibility in transit operating assistance.

"This bill will not solve all of this nation's economic troubles and there is more we need to do to put the American people back to work, but it will go a long way to spur job creation," said Carnahan.

The House also passed the comprehensive Jobs for Main Street Act to make targeted investments in areas that will grow our economy over the long term - including highways, public transit, construction, small businesses, job training, and hiring and retraining teachers, police officers, and firefighters.

Earlier today, Carnahan joined other Republican and Democratic cosponsors of legislation to promote tourism to the United States at White House bill signing ceremony. The bipartisan legislation signed into law today will help revitalize a tourism industry that has continued to struggle in the wake of the September 11th attacks. According to the Missouri Tourism Commission, nearly 290,000 Missourians work in the tourism industry - including almost 100,000 in the counties encompassed by the 3rd Congressional district - and international and domestic travelers spent over \$7.8 million in the state during FY 09.

To read a copy of Carnahan's regional economic plan click [here](#) or copy and paste the following url into your web browser:

http://carnahan.house.gov/images/stories/carnahan_regional_jobs_plan.pdf

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